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# The Warner Trail

## Through Norfolk County

JUNE 1995

## The Warner Trail

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Approved by: Philmore Anderson III, State Purchasing Agent

# The Warner Trail

## *The Trail and its History*

The Warner Trail offers delightful and varied outdoor experiences as it stretches more than 30 miles from Canton, Massachusetts, to the Diamond Hill State Park in Rhode Island. The possibility of establishing a woodland trail connecting the southerly fringe of the Boston area with the trail system in Rhode Island was first envisioned by Appalachian Mountain Club members, Charles H. Warner and John Hudson, prior to World War II. With the energetic assistance of Ron Gower and a number of other AMC club members residing in the general area, the trail was slowly put together, one section at a time, starting at RT. 128 and going through the Ponkapaug Camp of the AMC. By 1947 it extended south to High Rock in the State Forest in Foxboro. In the early 50's the trail had reached Diamond Hill, RI., but shortly developers caused the loss of the Ponkapaug to Canton Jct. RR station section.
The basic philosophy followed in the development of the trail was to maximize the challenges while at the same time providing the greatest amount of enjoyment. Thus the trail wanders considerably from elevated veiw points to swamp crossings, to brooks and reservoirs. The trail connects a number of State and Town forests, Audubon land, conservation land, and other public land.

## *Hiking the Warner Trail*

This trail can be enjoyed as a series of easy day-hikes, or one of several snow shoe hikes of up to 5 miles of unInterrupted quiet woodland, or as a scenic path to one of the many lunch spots. Users are asked to respect the property of private landowners who have generously granted permission for the trall to cross their land. Please leave nothing but footprints. The trail is marked by white plastic triangles and white or stainless steel discs on trees and utility poles and a few white paint marks on rocks or pavement where trees are missing. Double disks are used to indicate turns. It is recommended that hikers obtain copies of a map and guide available for the trail. Much of the trail is on private land - please go carefully and respect both the land owner and the land.

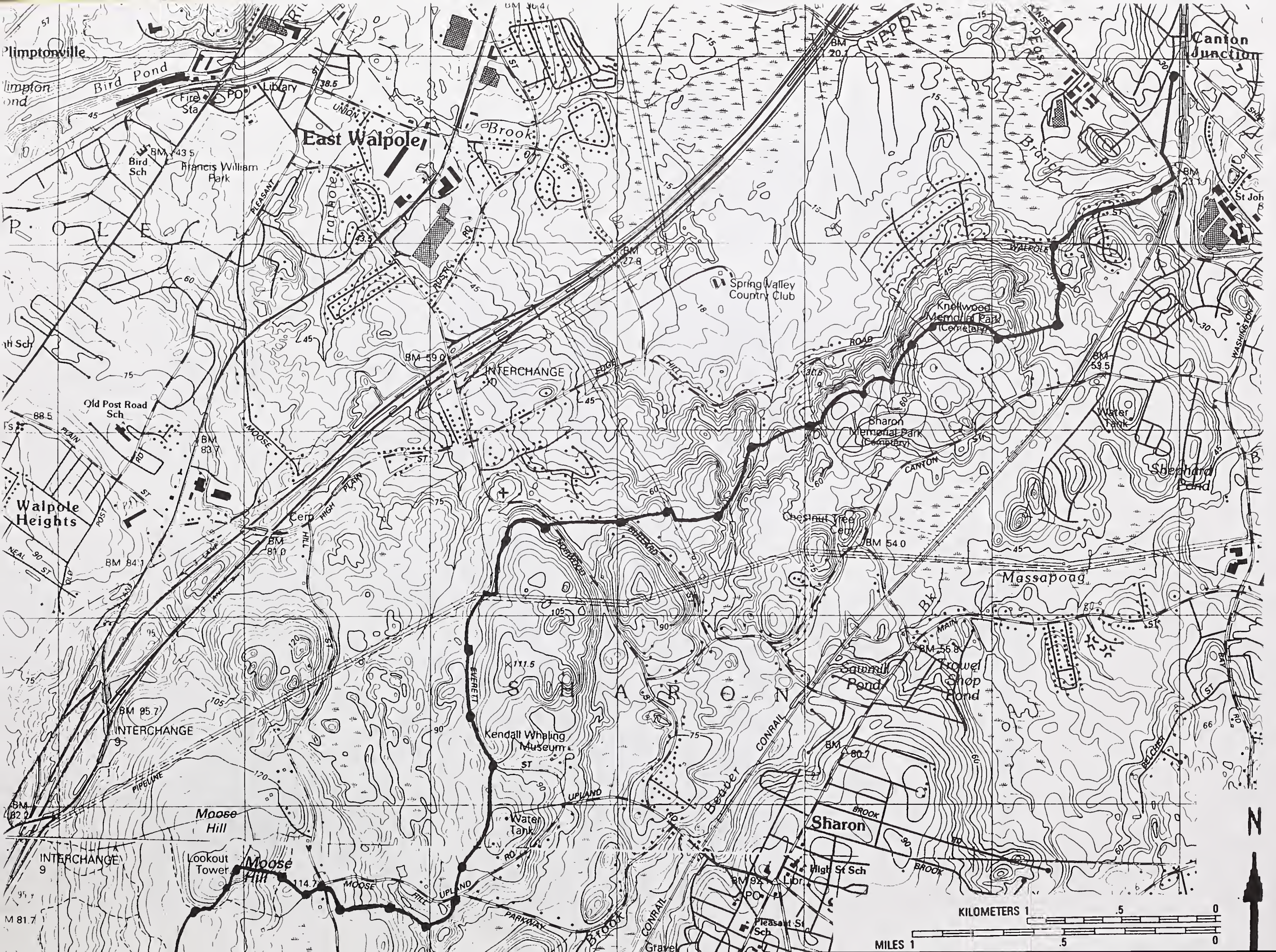
## *Caring for the Trail*

The Warner Trail is maintained by volunteer AMC members from the Boston, Narragansett and South East Massachusetts chapters, State Forest and Mass. Audubon personnel, and other interested people. These individuals take care of blow - downs, marking, brushing, bridges, and relocations. If you would like to get involved in the stewardship of this trail, contact the Friends of the Warner Trail, 30 Water Street Foxboro, MA.02035, (508) 543 - 2633.

## *Information:*

Information can be obtained at the Moose Hill Audubon, AMC at 5 Joy St. Boston, the office of the F. Gilbert Hills Headquarters, Mill St. Foxboro,MA.

To obtain a copy of the guide and maps SASE two stamps to: F.O.W.T, 30 Water St., Foxboro, MA. 02035



Plimptonville
Bird Pond
Fire Sta
PO
Library
East Walpole
Bird Sch
Francis William Park
Brook
Trapnole
Spring Valley Country Club
Canton Junction
St John
Knollwood Memorial Park (Cemetery)
Sharon Memorial Park (Cemetery)
INTERCHANGE 10
Old Post Road Sch
Walpole Heights
Cem
Chestnut Tree Cem
Massapoag
Water Tank
Shepard Pond
S H A R O N
Sawmill Pond
Trowel Shop Pond
Kendall Whaling Museum
INTERCHANGE 9
Moose Hill
Lookout Tower
Sharon
High St Sch
Lib
Pleasant St Sch
CONRAIL
Beaver Brook
N
KILOMETERS 1 .5 0
MILES 1 .5 0

## *Description*

Warner Trail from Canton JCT. RR. Station to Moose Hill Audubon Santuary, Sharon

To reach the northern end of the Warner Trail leave US 1 S of Boston near the Norwood Memorial Airport, or US I-95 and go E on Neponset St. into Canton to Jackson St. Go L (N) on Jackson St. to the RR. Station where the Warner Trail begins on the W side of the track. This convenient RR. parking area requires paying a fee, except on weekends.

The Warner Trail starts from the parking area by going S on Jackson St., following it to it's end and L (E) on Neponset St. Do not go under the viaduct, but curve R onto Walpole St.,and follow up a long rise and a short slope down where the trail bypasses an unmarked road. Just before a long bend to the right, the trail turns L and follows an unnamed road through a new housing development and turns R into woods to an old woods road where it follows upgrade. Follow this path through pleasant woods up a hill and swinging R to the Knollwood Memorial Park Cemetery. The trail, marked by white paint on the pavement, goes R on the paved road, swinging L past the Administration Bldg.and the half sized Iwo Jima memorial statue and further swinging L behind a large white statue of Christ, the Savior. The trail continues across the cemetery on paved roads and follows the R edge of the cemetery to a short gated road (HIKERS GO AROUND END) into the Sharon Memorial Park Cemetery. Trail continues on wandering paved roads SW toward a prominent high ledge on the SW side of Dedham St. (passing around the W end of hedge along Dedham St. (Parking for 3 or 4 cars) the trail keeps to the R (NW) of the ledge for 0.1 mi/ 0.15 km where it crosses a woods road and a berm over a drainage pipe, and continues heading NW for another 0.1mi/0.15km where it curves around, going SW,coming to a bridge over a brook at 0.4mi/0.5km and heads almost N up a hill and switches back L up on a ridge going SW until it comes to a woods road Jct. at 0.5mi/0.8km. The trail turns L (EDGEHILL STREET SPUR TRAIL TURNS RIGHT, SEE NOTE AT END OF PAGE) still mostly SW. (In 0.1 mi/0.15km a woods road to the L goes over the brook about 15yd/14m.away). The trail continues SW up a rise curving to the R(W) and forks R(NW) from the woods road at 0.6mi/1.0km. At 0.8ml/1.3km it comes out on a power line clearing and turns R (N) on the service road for the power line. In 30yd/28m it comes to a metal barrier on the side of Mt. Fern St.(a gravel road) and turns L (SW). The road becomes paved and the trail continues up to Bullard St. The end of the pavement on Mt. Fern St. Is not a public parking area. Distance from Dedham St. approx. 0.9mi/1.45km.Trail goes R on Bullard St. (may be relocation) to Norwood St. (Rt 27) which it crosses into the woods, turning R (SW) on a narrow horse path, winding over a stone wall through a fine grove of red pine to a power line right of way, along which the trail goes R (W) for a short distance and turns L on Everett St. (a wide gravel road).The trail follows Everett St. S, into Audubon land, as it becomes a woods road, going between two large open fields at 100yd/90m, and passing a large outcropping on the left at 0.4mi/0.6km and turning approx 80° R on another woods road at 0.5mi/0.8km. Trail climbs slowly for approx 0.1mi/0.2km and continues level, ignoring a woods road joining from the right rear and another directly from the right within another 0.2mi/0.3km. Turning R into Moose Hill Audubon land in 0.1mi/0.2km onto a path it goes down a slope and turns L for 0.1mi/0.2km to Moose Hill Pkwy.just W of junction with Upland Rd. Jogging to the R a few yd/m, the trail, marked also with the letter A (within the Sanctuary), enters the Sanctuary, turning L(S) on a path which it follows until it turns R on the Forbush trail which it follows winding generally W almost to Moose Hill Street and turns R on a path to the large Sanctuary parking lot and minimum shelter. Parking here may require paying a fee, but always park at rear.

Note; EDGEHILL STREET SPUR TRAIL (0.4mi/0.5km); At Jct. Blue blazed spur trail turns R and continues down woods road for .15 mi/.175km and turns R into a small pine grove. Shortly thereafter enters a small clearing then back into deciduous forest, slabs the side of a hill and drops down to Edgehill St. Parking for 6 cars.

KILOMETERS 1
.5
0
MILES 1
.5
0
N
INTERCHANGE 9
PIPELINE
Moose Hill
Lookout Tower
Moose Hill
114.7
Kettle Hole
WALPOLE
St Francis Cem
Gravel Pit
BM 57.6
PINE
Neponset
Ganawatte Farm Pond
Water Tank
Bluff Hill
85.8
Pierce Hill
Boyden Sch
SOUTH
BM 85.7
WALPOLE
ST
Cranberry Bog
MAIN
SOUTH
Sharon Heights Sch
Wolomolopoag Pond
PIPELINE
Cranberry Bog
Cranberry Bogs
Cem
Dudley Hill
Gravel Pit
INTERCHANGE
EDWARDS
ROAD
BM 85.5
Billings
Brook
WOLOMOLOPOAG
CONRAIL
Gravel Pit
Cracklock
Reservoir
Neponset
Bear I
Crescent Island
Neponset Reservoir
Neponset Ridge
Gavins Pond
Gravel Pit
Barefoot Hill
Lewis Sch
OAK
HOSPITAL
CHESTNUT
MECHANIC
Cem
Water Tank
St Marys Cem
Ahern Sch
Gravel Pit
Lincoln Hill Camp

## Distance Table

| FROM CANTON JCT. RR TO: | Miles | Kilometers |
|---|---|---|
| Moose Hill | 7.3 | 11.7 |
| High Rock | 17.3 | 27.8 |
| Wampum Corner | 25.8 | 41.5 |
| Rhodes Street | 30.2 | 48.5 |
| Diamond Hill | 34.5 | 55.5 |

### Warner Trail from Moose Hill Sanctuary to High Rock in Gilbert Hills State Forest, Foxboro

The trail, marked also with the letter A (within the Sanctuary), turns L through the parking lot gate and jogs slightly to the R to a gravel road going between two stone posts. In about 50yd/46m the trail turns R on the Summit Trail which it follows to the top of Moose Hill, with its fire tower. Proceeding L (SW) from the fire tower the trail shortly comes out on a rocky knoll and drops down fairly steeply through woods to a woods road. The trail follows R, swinging E, later turns R and continues briefly on another woods road which it follows R (SW) to a fork on the N slope of Bluff Head where it turns L (S), keeping R at the next junction, over to Bluff Head, an ideal lunch spot with a wonderful view to the S. The trail goes SW, slabbing across and down several rocky ledges and one brief sharp climb, ending on a woods road. The trail turns L and follows the downward sloping woods road until near the bottom it forks R and then goes L up to Walpole St.(Sharon). (About .8mi/1.2km SE of the intersection of Walpole St. And US 1). There is a wide shoulder allowing for parking of a few cars off of the pavement.The trail turns L for about 15yd/14m and crosses Walpole St., turns R (W) into the woods and climbs steadily to the top of Pierce Hill (350ft./ 106.8m) from which there is a good view S and W. The trail drops rapidly and steadily until it intersects the Old Post Road (once a main thoroughfare, but now a woods road) which it follows S about 0.3mi/0.5km and turns R onto a path that develops into a driveway (for an underground house and two new houses) to Pine St. which the trail follows L to South Walpole St. Turns R (SW) on South Walpole St. going over the northbound and under the southbound I-95 and continues until the trail turns L off South Walpole St. at the first bend in the street on an unused, indistinct, and overgrown dirt road (Dudley Hill Road). (Cars must not be parked here). (Private land). Take care to go around the end of a blocking fence without damaging the bushes (intended to discourage all but pedestrians). Keeping right at the first fork the trail follows a mostly straight woods road through swampy areas. As one approaches the back of several new houses, the trail turns R 45°, crosses a gas line easement, and winds through a swamp to a berm,turning L for a few yds/m and forking R through more swamp, keeping the stone wall on the L until it comes to another stone wall and turns L again keeping the wall on the L until it approaches lawns. The trail turns R about 45° and goes to a gap in a snow fence and then goes directly towards Beach St. along the edge of two adjoining lawns, past a utilities pole where it turns R across Beach Street at an angle and turns L (S) on a right of way (just beyond a large pin oak and a wooden fence), through a row of large rocks to two lonesome pin oaks and turns L on an old gravel road which it follows, curving R, a short distance to Edwards St. where cars can be parked. There the trail turns R, and after 0.6mi/1km turns L up a bank (This is a public way-extension of Camp Road). The trail goes through some woods onto the gravel Camp Road which it follows for 0.2mi/0.3km and turns L (S) into the Whispering Pines development on McCasland Way, L on McKenzie Ln.and R on Munroe St. and on to the cul-de-sac. It continues on the Foxboro Conservation Lane Property. The trail goes mostly S through the open woods, with the Neponset Reservoir on the L, for 0.4mi/0.6km to the dam at the outlet of the reservoir. Turning R beyond the dam and up a rise the trail goes SW until it turns L (S), just before coming to a RR track, and goes parallel to the tracks on several (Boy Scout built) bog bridges to Chestnut Street (a good parking area) and turns R (W) to North Street, goes briefly L at an angle to Main Street and a pedestrian traffic light. (Look for Dairy Queen and donut shop) Crossing with the light, the trail turns L (S) for a few yds/m to turn R into the Foxboro Conservation parking lot.

*Distance* from Beach St. 2.1 mi/3.3km

The trail follows a lane W out the back of the lot, turning R at the trail junction in 0.35mi/0.6km. As the trail approaches Lakeview Rd. it turns R and

Dudley Hill
WT
Gravel Pit
INTERCH
EDWARDS
ROAD
PIPELINE
Foxborough Raceway
Schaefer Stadium
101.0
WT
Trailer Park
BM 102
CONRAIL
Crackrock
Reservoir
Neponset
Bear I
Crescent Island
Neponset Ridge
Mann Pond
Crackrock Pond
Gravel Pit
BM
80.5
81.6
81.5
Sew Disp
Cem
FOXBOROUGH STATE HOSPITAL
Lewis Sch
CHESTNUT
MECHANIC
STREET
St Marys Cem
Water Tank
Ahern Sch
BM 87.4
Foxboro
140
MAIN
99.1
WT
Lakeview Pond
82.5
88.0
Governor
Meadow
Sunset Lake
High Rock
Radio Tower
Goat Rock
FOXBOROUGH
STATE FOREST
Gravel Pit
Crocker Pond
Brook
62.0
BM 91.1
State Police
Trailer Park
BM
99.1
74.5
Pumping Station
4 LANE
Cranberry Bog
Radio Tower
Pondville
115
Cem
Gravel Pit
BM 56.1
Radio Towers (WJMQ)
STREET
Pumping Stas
Southwood Hospital
Sew Disp
WT
93.0
BM 71.9
86.0
River
47.8
KILOMETERS 1
.5
0
MILES 1
.5
0
N

goes on a somewhat obscure path to a Heritage Estates cul-de -sac and goes on the pavement,turning L on the first street and goes out to Lakeview Rd. The trail turns L(S) and crosses the dam for Lakeview Lake. The trail turns R(W) along the side of the lake and continues W until it comes to Upper Dam pond where it goes across the dam (using Boy Scout built stiles), turns L(S) and swings SE around the pond to Messenger Rd. (a gravel road) where the trail turns R(SW) and up a long climb toward High Rock (in the F.Gilbert Hills State Forest). As the road nears the top, the trail forks R on an old woods road (where an emergency shelter can be used during inclement weather) and climbs until just prior to a fenced-in old radar test station where it turns L at the foot of a large boulder (High Rock itself) and follows a short path over the rise to the gravel parking area (room for 6 - 8 cars) at the foot of a mammoth microwave relay tower and base building. A paved road, maintained by AT&T goes down to US 1 about 0.5 mi/ 0.8km S of the intersection of US 1 and Mass. 140.

### *Distance:*

Moose Hill Sanctuary to High Rock 10.0 mi/16.0 km,
Edwards St. To W side of Upper Dam 3.8 mi/6.1 km

## Warner Trail from High Rock to Wampum Corner, Wrentham (Jct 1-A and Mass. 121)

To reach the NE end of this section of the Warner Trail take the paved road ( High Rock Road) leaving US1 L(S) approx 0.5 mi/ 0.8 km S of the junction of US1 and Mass. 140 to the gravel parking area next to the gate to the F. Gilbert Hills State Forest, near the foot of the Microwave tower. *Do not park on the AT&T paved parking area, and do not block the fire lane gate.*

(Note; Planned reconstruction of Rt. 1 may change current description of this section.) The trail leaves the E and of the parking area just W of the barrier gate. At approx 150 yd/140 m the trail turns L and follows a winding path, dropping down and passing under an overhanging cliff (Goat Rock, Look for tree growing out of rock), swinging R and over a number of large rocks crossing an underground stream, and continuing on an arc to the foot of a climb using the rock steps built many years ago by the CCC 's (0.4 mi/ 0.6 m from the microwave tower), turns L 90° and goes SE over the top to a junction with the Acorn Trail ( a 1.7 mi/ 2.7 km rugged feeder trail from the Forest Headquarters on Mill St., Foxboro). The trail then goes S for a short distance to the top of a large rock slab from the top of which there is an excellent view to the W. The trail descends SW approx 100 yd/m to the base. After a short distance it turns R (NNW) on a woods road for 0.4 mi / 0.6 km, turns L on a path for another 0.4 mi / 0.6 km, and a woods road down a short distance to US 1 which it crosses (CAUTION) onto Myrtle St. ( Wrentham ). It follows Myrtle St. for a few yds/m and turns L into the woods just before the dirt road that forks off to the L while Myrtle St. veers to the R . Following on a path that parallels US 1 for a short distance, it jogs R on a telephone co. cleared way and into a pine woods where it skirts around swamp land and over a series of bog bridges, eventually to come out, keeping to the L, on the cul-de-sac at the end of Davis Ave. The trail follows Davis Ave. one block to its end on Ames Ave., turns R for a block to Dunn Ave., turns L for a block to Thurston St. where it goes R briefly to Warner Trail Road where it turns L and follows 0.3 mi/ 0.5km to the cul-de-sac and continues on a conservation restriction ( 10 ft. / 3m wide ) straight and then approx 70° L circling around through a notch to the remains of the sealed - over Wrentham landfill, and around the L end of the chain link fence along Madison St. ( Go through the gate if it is open enough). There is room for a few cars parked off the pavement. The trail continues into the woods directly across the gate, turn sharply L and, after a short flat stretch, circles to the R and steadily climbs to the first of several peaks it reaches in a tortuous winding manner ( one of the peaks, at 0.3 mi / 0.5 km, is called the Pinnacle), with views of Boston skyline after which it drops down to a woods road where it turns R. After a long down slope the trail veers L on a flat stretch and forks R to go down ( SE ) another long slope, turns L (E) over rocky but

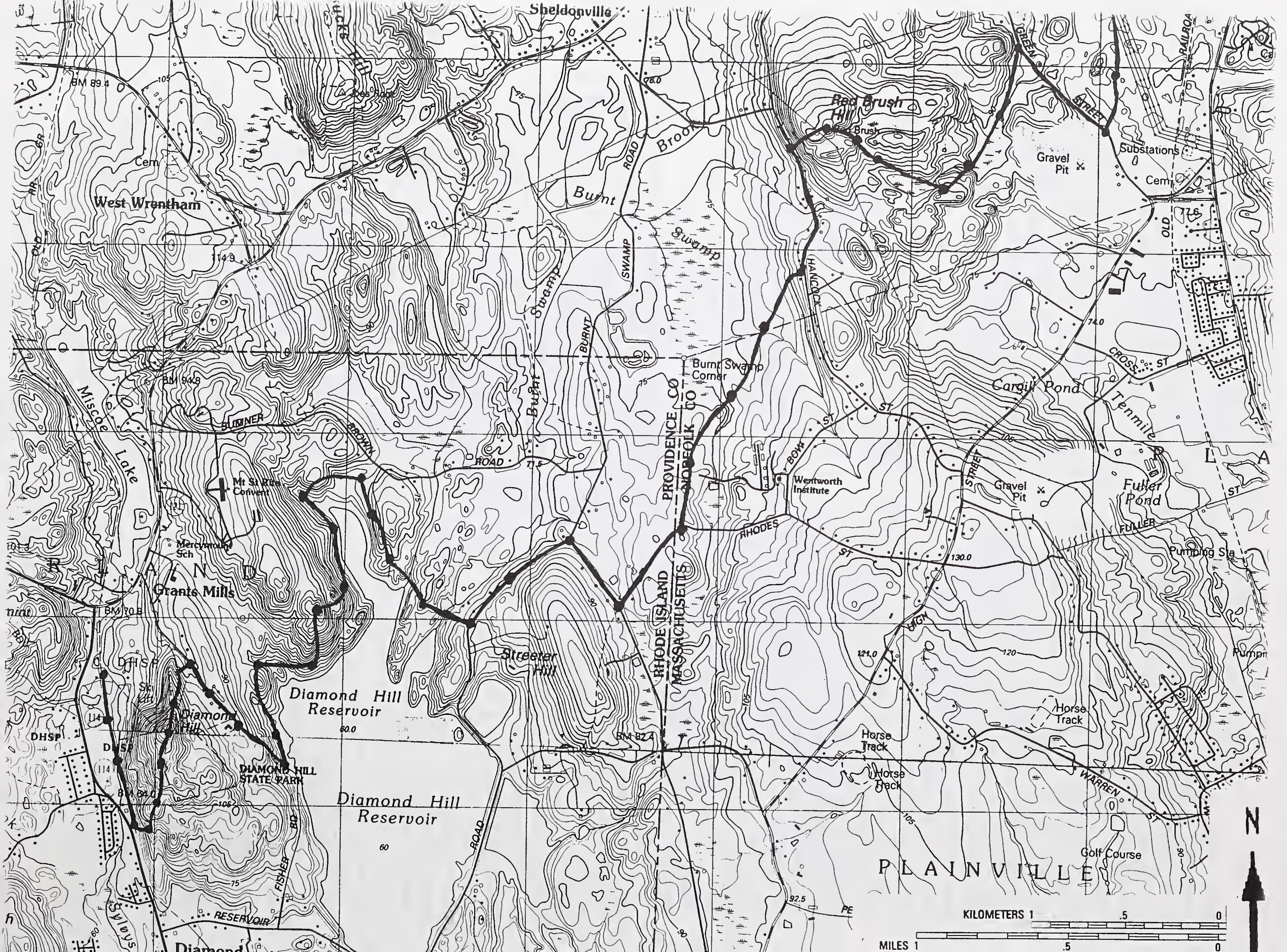
Uncas Pond
Gravel Pit
Pearl
61.0
WRENTHAM
Gravel Pit
Delaney Sch
Playground
Knuckup Hill
89.8
Trout Pond
Pinnacle
Wampum Corner
Bald Hill
WEST
GRADE
INTERCHANGE
15
WRENTHAM STATE FOREST
TAUNTON
INTERCHANGE
RAILROAD
Campground
GREEN STREET
Red Brush Hill
Substations
Gravel Pit
Cem
HANCOCK
Swamp
Burnt Swamp Corner
CROSS ST
OLD
GEORGE
WSF
Brook
Bliss Union Chapel
Cem
Shepard
LANE
KILOMETERS 1
.5
0
MILES 1
.5
0
N

fairly level terrain, up a short slope, turns R for a few yds/ m and L over the top of an outcropping, descends slowly, crosses several trailbike trails, goes through a couple of stone walls and turns R ( SW) with a large boulder on the right, and passes through woods. It turns R (W) on a woods road which it follows for 0.2 mi / 0.3km where it turns L on one woods road, L on another, and sharply L (E) on a third one. At 1.6mi/ 2.5km the trail turns R (S) skirting around L to the right of a stone wall ( forest boundary). In 0.5 mi / 0.8 km trail turns R (S), goes through a swampy area and after a small outcropping continues almost due W where it crosses Minnehaha Brook and then a small swamp. After a few yds/m the trail turns L ( S ) for 100 yd /90 m to a rocky knoll called Outlook Rock, which it leaves, going L (E) down a slope and across a trailbike trail, turns R (S) crossing a swampy area (difficult after a wet snow) and ascends to the top of a cliff overlooking Minnehaha Pond and the remains of an impressive dam on the R, follows down the E side of Minnehaha Brook for 50 yd / 45 m to a woods road ( Red Fox Path ) where it turns R ( SW ). A short bushwhack will take one to the Minnehaha Falls (rapids ) to the S approx 200 yd / 180 m distant. The Warner Trail and the Red Fox path together follow the woods road for 0.6 mi/ 1 km where the Red Fox path forks L and the Warner Trail continues NW, following woods roads, trailbike trails and paths for another 0.5 mi / 0.8 km where it turns L on a winding path for about 60 yd / 55 m to Taunton St and turns R (N) on the street. After 0.1mi/0.2km the trail turns L(W) into a handsome open pine woods where it turns R and almost parallels the street, crossing the Wrentham Water Works road (paved) at the fork, (The entrance to this road on Taunton St is .8mi/1.3km S of Mass 140 at Wrentham center), and continues almost N for 0.5mi/0.8km around to the bottom of the remains of a tow bar of the ski slope where it turns L almost 180° and goes up the steep slope to the summit (Knuckup Hill) with an extensive view to the north, including the Boston skyline. The trail continues, following the gravel road L and down the hill, branching R on a path that avoids the brick building. At the paved road the trail turns R and follows a gravel road along the N side of an attractive pond, past another pond on the L and out to Beech St at a point 0.5mi/0.8km SE of Mass 1-A. The trail goes L (SE) on Beech St., forking R on Bear Swamp Rd (a private woods road-please respect it) which goes into the Wrentham State Forest and almost to I-495 where the trail turns R, approaching I-495 two more times before curving to the R and going northerly, climbing slowly. The trail turns L on a woods road and, after a long descent, a short climb and a drop through an area of abandoned autos and trucks, comes to Mass 1-A where it turns R to Wampum Corner (jct of Mass 1-A and Mass 121).

*Distances*: High Rock to Wampum Corner 8.5mi/13.7km

## Warner trail from Wampum Corner to Hancock Street, Wrentham

5 to 6 cars can be parked along Mass 121 before the first road on the right. It is advisable to first talk to the police at their Hq in the municipal bldg. in Wrentham Center. (N on 1-A) The trail leaves Wampum Corner on Mass 121 which it follows SW for a few yds/m and turns L up a steep bank onto an abandoned RR bed. The trail goes under a pipe barrier and then I-495 on the RR bed and immediately turns R, paralleling the highway for 0.2mi/0.3km where it turns L going up an outcropping to the top where there is another view of the Boston skyline. The trail turns R(S) and follows the ridge, crossing a trailbike trail,and after more wandering, turns L crosses more ledge and drops down across a well worn path and continuing up a rise and to the top of another outcropping. Continuing along the ridge the trail turns L(SE) and then SW and comes to a power line (WATCH FOR RELOCATION) where it turns L approx 30° across the clearing and past a small illegal dump to a large tree on the other side. Following SW the trail crosses rocky ledges, goes along a ridge and drops down, turning L. In a few yds/m it comes to a large gravel road and turns R to go to Green St.where it turns R. The trail follows


Sheldonville
West Wrentham
Red Brush Hill
Burnt Swamp
Burnt Swamp Corner
Burnt Swamp Brook
PROVIDENCE CO
NORFOLK CO
RHODE ISLAND
MASSACHUSETTS
Wentworth Institute
Cargill Pond
Tenmile
Fuller Pond
Gravel Pit
Substations
Cem
Mt St Rita Convent
Mercymount Sch
Grants Mills
Miscoe Lake
Streeter Hill
Diamond Hill Reservoir
Diamond Hill
DIAMOND HILL STATE PARK
DHSP
Horse Track
Golf Course
Pumping Sta
PLAINVILLE
GREEN STREET
HANCOCK
SWAMP ROAD
BURNT
BROWN ROAD
SUMNER
RHODES ST
BOW ST
STREET
CROSS ST
OLD
FULLER ST
WARREN ST
FISHER RD
RESERVOIR
KILOMETERS 1 .5 0
MILES 1 .5 0
N

Green St. (W) for approx 0.6 mi/1km where it turns L on a gravel-sand road which it follows (avoid turns) as it deteriorates into an old badly eroded woods road. The trail turns R at approx 1mi/1.6km where it continues up to the top of a ledge and in another 0.1mi/0.2km climbs to another outcropping, which is a clear ledge from which one can, in the winter, see Providence buildings to the S and the High Rock Microwave tower to the N. The trail continues for a few yd/m to a power line where it jogs R for 20yd/18m and turns L into the woods to Red Brush Hill and Sunset Rock with excellent views to the W and SW into Rhode Island, including Diamond Hill. This is a good lunch spot. The trail descends the R edge of the ledge, through the woods and soon emerges on Hancock St at a point 0.8mi/1.2km E of Mass 121 in Sheldonville (a part of Wrentham), and turns L.

*Distances:* Wampum Corner to Green St, 1.4mi/2.3km; to Hancock St, 3.1mi/5km;

## Warner Trail from Hancock St. To Diamond Hill,Rhode Island

(Because of the Wentworth swamp there is a bad weather alternative route, see note at the end of this section) The trail follows S, around a bend, on Hancock St. for approx 0.4mi/0.6km and turns R(SW) on a lane to a Christmas tree farm. (Hancock Crafts) (The owner wants NO CARS PARKED at his entrance or on Hancock St in front of his lot). CAREFULLY (watch for the blue flags at each seedling) follow the lane through the lot down a slope for approx 275yd/250m to a small brook where it turns L over a crude bridge and goes (CAREFULLY) through a young tree lot. After the tree lot the trail goes SE to SW across a large swampy area, mostly on the Wentworth Civil Engineering Campus, turns R across a concrete slab bridge and, still on Wentworth land, follows a woods road until it turns out to an open field. The trail does not follow onto the field, it continues, keeping in the woods to the right of the stone wall at the edge of the field, then crossing a field (still Wentworth) to come out on Rhodes St. (Plainville) (a parking place for several cars). A sign here, going N, states "NO PASSING EXCEPT FOR WARNER TRAIL THRU HIKERS" The trail turns R to follow the street across the Mass/RI state line (after a few yds/m) and on to Burnt Swamp Rd (Cumberland, RI.) The trail turns R(NW) for approx 0.5mi/0.8km to Reservoir Rd where it turns approx 120° L (SW) and goes almost beyond Ker-Anna, a summer camp, (WATCH FOR A RELOCATION HERE) and turns R on a driveway leading across a dam for the small lake. Beyond the dam the trail goes on a wood road W and SW to a small triangle formed by paths, where the trail turns R(N) (to circle around the Diamond Hill Reservoir which can be seen to the L), following a woods road, a brief cut-off to the L and another woods road going generally W until it comes to a small brook. The trail turns L(S) and goes through a swampy area, (NEW RELOCATION) climbs a hill, turns L through a stone wall and follows down the remains of a woods road coming within a yd/m of the water. Climbing up to the R it slabs along the side of a hill for about 0.5mi/0.8km where it turns R and climbs W to a rocky ledge with an open crest and views of the Diamond Hill Reservoir. The trail continues generally S along a down sloping ridge, onto a woods road, and just before the road goes under water, turns R on a path up and over a rise for about 0.1mi/0.2km where it turns L (SW) through some heavy brush, across a small stream and up a sharp rise, down the other side to a woods road where it turns 45° L(S). The trail bears R on a path through many muddy narrow spots along the side of the reservoir until it comes to Fisher Road (stone cairn) and turns sharp R up the remains of the old road. The road becomes a paved road in the middle of a condo project and the trail continues on the paved road for about 200yd/180m and turns left on a well worn path going up a slope (WATCH FOR RELOCATION). The trail turns L on the first woods road and goes zig-zag to the summit of Diamond Hill where indistinct remains of the public and private ski operations can be found. On the E side, below the summit one can see, in good weather, the Boston skyline as well as the Providence buildings. The trail goes S, around a large water tank, up over broken boulders and wandering along the ridge,

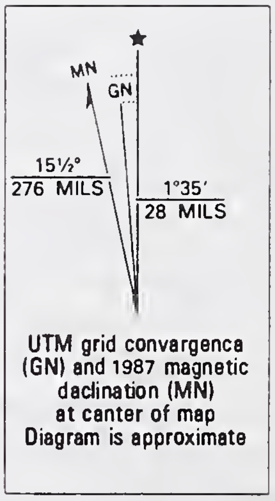
coming out on the edge of several sheer drops and finally comes to a steep drop-off to the R where the trail goes down to RI 114 in Cumberland. The area is an abandoned quarry at the bottom of which the trail turns R going on a path parallel to and approx 11 yds/10m from a gas line easement that is blocked by a barrier. Eventually the trail goes over to the easement and crosses a brook on the exposed 18in/450mm gas pipes, and continues on to the Diamond Hill parking areas.

Note; ALTERNATIVE ROUTE FROM HANCOCK ST; If there has been heavy rain or wet snow for several days before the hike the Wentworth swamp may be impassible except with rubber boots. An alternative route starts with a turn R on Hancock after coming down from Sunset rock. Go approx 0.1mi/0.2km and keep L at the fork (follow Hancock St.), going approx 0.4mi/0.6km to Burnt Swamp Rd., and turn L. Following this road for approx 1.5mi/2.5km meets the marked trail at the intersection with Reservoir Rd which the trail follows.

## *Distances:*

Hancock to Rhodes, 3.2mi/5.1km;
to Reservoir Rd, 4.0mi/6.4km;
to Diamond Hill summit 6.7mi/10.8km;
to the parking lot, 7.8mi/12.6km

DECLINATION DIAGRAM




**SCALE 1:25 000**

1 CENTIMETER ON THE MAP REPRESENTS 250 METERS ON THE GROUND

CONTOUR INTERVAL 3 METERS

# WARNER TRAIL GUIDE

This temporary trail guide is designed to serve hikers until a more complete guide becomes available. Development pressures have resulted in a number of relocations of the trail and future relocations are planned. With the assistance of the Department of Enviromental Management and the town conservation commissions we are working to provide a permanently protected trail corridor for the Warner Trail. This format provides the opportunity to inexpensively update the trail guide while work is in progress.

This guide was developed by Mead Bradner of The Appalachian Mountain Club and of the Friends of the Warner Trail. The Department of Enviromental Management funded its publication as part of their program of support for volunteer trail efforts throughout the Commonwealth.

Trails Program
Department of
Enviromental Management
Division of Resource Conservation
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